

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendment, Claims 1-14, 57-58, 60 and 62 have been amended, and Claims 59, 61 and 63-64 have been cancelled. Claims 15-56 and 65-66 were previously cancelled. The remaining pending claims continue to be directed to a medical device. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested.

The Examiner objected to the disclosure with regard to the description of the drawings, and the specification has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions in this regard. The Examiner also objected to the disclosure at pages 10 and 11, and the specification has been amended in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions in this regard. It is therefore believed that the objections to the disclosure can now be withdrawn.

Claim 3 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112 on the grounds of indefiniteness with regard to the limitation of the "lens" which has now been corrected to refer to the "body portion." It is therefore believed that the rejection of Claim 3 on the grounds of indefiniteness can now be withdrawn.

Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) on the grounds of anticipation in view of Jarvik, disclosing an implantable vascular prosthesis with a body portion and a roughened area on its inner surface. Claim 1 has now been amended to recite "a stent having an inner surface and an outer surface; and a plurality of asperities formed on the inner surface of the stent, the asperities being formed of at least one of protrusions and indentations." Jarvik does not teach, disclose or suggest a stent with a plurality of

asperities formed on the inner surface of the stent, the asperities being formed of at least one of protrusions and indentations, as is now claimed. It is respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is novel and inventive over Jarvik, and that the rejection of Claim 1 on the grounds of anticipation in view of Jarvik should be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 3 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) on the grounds of anticipation in view of Barrows, disclosing an absorbable nerve repair device with a roughened inner portion. However, Barrows does not teach, disclose or suggest a stent with a plurality of asperities formed on the inner surface of the stent, the asperities being formed of at least one of protrusions and indentations, as is now recited in Claim 1. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claim 1 is novel and inventive over Barrows, and that the rejection of Claims 1 and 3 on the grounds of anticipation in view of Barrows should be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-14 and 57-64 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) on the grounds of anticipation in view of Palmaz et al., which discloses an intravascular stent with grooves on the inner surface of the stent. Claims 9, 59, 61 and 63-64 have been cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended to recite "a plurality of asperities formed on the inner surface of the stent, the asperities being formed of at least one of protrusions and indentations." Claims 57, 58 and 60 have been similarly amended. Claim 57 has been amended to recite "an asperity formed on a selected portion of the inner surface of the body portion, the asperity being formed of at least one of protrusions and indentations; and a coating of a bio-compatible material applied only to the inner surface of the body portion over the asperity prior to deployment in the patient's vasculature." Palmaz et al.

discloses formation of an inner layer of endothelial cells following deployment in the vasculature, but does not teach, disclose or suggest providing an asperity or asperities formed on the inner surface of the body portion, the asperities being formed of at least one of protrusions and indentations, and does not teach, disclose or suggest providing a coating of a bio-compatible material applied only to the inner surface of the body portion over the asperity prior to deployment in the patient's vasculature. It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10-14, 57-58, 60 and 62 are novel and inventive over Palmaz et al., and that the rejection of Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 10-14, 57-58, 60 and 62 on the grounds of anticipation in view of Palmaz et al. should be withdrawn.

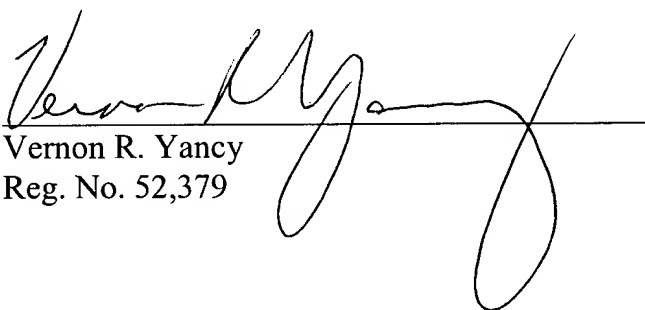
Claim 8 was also rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) on the grounds of obviousness from Palmaz et al. However, Claim 8 depends from Claim 1, which recites "a plurality of asperities formed on the inner surface of the stent, the asperities being formed of at least one of protrusions and indentations." It is therefore respectfully submitted that Claim 8 is novel and inventive over Palmaz et al., and that the rejection of Claim 8 on the grounds of obviousness in view of Palmaz et al. should be withdrawn.

Applicant has reviewed the additional references made of record and not relied upon, and it is believed that the additional references are no more pertinent than the references applied.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, and an early favorable action in this regard is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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